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KENNETH JAY BOSS (1935–2014)

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ABSTRACT. Kenneth Jay Boss (1935–2014), longtime Curator of Malacology and Professor of Biology at Harvard University, made significant contributions to malacology, including through his diverse publications on molluscan systematics and the history of malacology; curation of the mollusk collections at the Museum of Comparative Zoology; and teaching undergraduate and graduate students. In the Mollusca, he described 22 species, five genera, two family-level names, and one superorder; he also co-authored a new genus and species in the Polychaeta (Annelida). This paper discusses his professional career and catalogs his publications and new taxa.

KEY WORDS: Kenneth J. Boss; Mollusca; history of malacology

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BIOGRAPHY

Kenneth Jay Boss was born on December 5, 1935, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to a conservative Dutch Reformed Church family and had a religious upbringing that he later rebelled against. In Grand Rapids, he became familiar with the Grand Rapids Public Museum, founded in 1854 as the Grand Rapids Lyceum of Natural History.

Boss attended Central Michigan University, earning his B.A. degree summa cum laude in 1957 in Biology and Chemistry (with minor concentrations in Geology and German). As an undergraduate, he worked for a project in freshwater ecology sponsored by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (now the Nuclear Regulatory Commission) and also spent the summer of 1957 working at the U.S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries field station at Karluk Lake, Kodiak Island, Alaska. He earned his Master of Science in Zoology at Michigan State University in

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1959 for a thesis on the freshwater Unionidae (Bivalvia): The naiad fauna of the Red Cedar River, in southcentral Michigan (later summarized as Boss, 1964c).

In 1959, Boss spent the summer at the University of Washington's Friday Harbor Laboratory, located in the scenic San Juan Islands, midway between Puget Sound and Vancouver Island. That summer at the Friday Harbor Labs changed his career, as it did for so many other zoologists—including a future colleague, Ruth Turner, who similarly had a life-changing experience at the Labs in 1957.

At Friday Harbor, Boss took Marine Invertebrate Zoology from Paul Illg, an expert on copepods and one of the last zoological generalists in this country, and the Advanced Invertebrate Zoology research course, co-taught by Dixy Lee Ray (later famous as the governor of Washington) and the British marine biologist C. Maurice Yonge. For the research course, his paper was a systematic key of the marine bivalves of the San Juan Island, which later formed the basis for the Bivalvia section of the *Keys to the Marine Invertebrates of Puget Sound* (Kozloff, 1974). Collecting, identifying, and differentiating those clams resulted in Boss devoting most of his professional career to the study of marine bivalves.

GRADUATE SCHOOL AT HARVARD

In 1959, Boss enrolled in graduate school at Harvard University, where he joined the lively Mollusk Department, headed by William J. Clench, who was nearing the end of his 40-year career at the Museum of Comparative Zoology (MCZ). At that time, Joseph Rosewater (who became a curator at the Smithsonian) and Robert Robertson (who became a curator at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia), were completing their studies at the MCZ. His fellow students in malacology in the early 1960s included Vida Carmen Kenk y Blanco, Joseph Vagvolgyi, and Kenneth Richard Hodgson Read. Several long-time Research Associates in the Mollusk Department became life-long colleagues—Ruth D. Turner, Richard W. Foster, Richard I. Johnson, and Arthur S. Merrill. Boss enjoyed seminars with the wide range of zoologists in the MCZ, particularly with Ernst Mayr.

As a graduate student, Boss focused his attention on the marine bivalves of the Tellinidae, a difficult family in terms of systematics, since numerous, poorly differentiated nominal species had been described over the previous century (particularly by Sylvanus Hanley). Furthermore, the shells of this family tend to have relatively few distinguishing characteristics, in contrast to some other marine bivalve families. His thesis, on the subfamily Tellininae of the Western Atlantic (1963), did much to resolve the systematics of this group and served as a useful foundation for studies on the tellinids of other geographical regions. Of the 158 titles in his bibliography, 13 were devoted to this family (1961, 1963, 1964a, 1964d, 1964e, 1964f, 1966b, 1966f, 1967d, 1968e, 1969a, 1969j, 1972h).

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After earning his Ph.D. in 1963, Boss was hired by the National Systematics Laboratory of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries (now the National Marine Fisheries Service). He was stationed at the U.S. National Museum (now the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution). This laboratory had been founded by the ichthyologist Giles W. Mead, who moved to the MCZ in 1960. Mead's replacement, Daniel Cohen, also an ichthyologist, was given authority to hire several systematic zoologists to study commercially

important marine organisms; Cohen first hired Boss, followed by a second ichthyologist, Bruce Collette, and two crustacean biologists, Austin Williams and Isabel Pérez Farfante (Dunn and Pietsch, 2005:695).

Boss enjoyed the company of this congenial group of zoologists, and Cohen gave them free reign to study what they wanted, as long as they spent some time studying organisms of economic importance. Cohen did much to run interference with the administrators in the Department of Commerce, so that Boss and his colleagues would not have to deal with administrative obstacles. Cohen later recounted that "the administrative arrangement with Bureau headquarters (unaffectionately named by Mead the 'goat barn') across town was 'a lousy way to run a ball team'" (Dunn and Pietsch, 2005:695).

Boss also enjoyed working with the malacologists in the Division of Mollusks—Joseph Rosewater had recently joined two long-time curators, Harald A. Rehder and Joseph P. E. Morrison (Rehder, 1997:149, 157, pl. 43). Together, they studied the world's largest mollusk collection, a treasure trove of research topics. Boss also had fruitful interactions with the numerous paleontologists who studied Cenozoic mollusks at the Smithsonian, including those with the U.S. Geological Survey, such as Wendell Woodring, Harry Ladd, and Dwight W. Taylor. Boss was among the few who were able to get along with the brilliant but troubled Taylor (Kabat and Johnson, 2008).

In 1964, Boss was a senior scientist on Cruise 7 of the *R/V Anton Bruun*, operated by the National Science Foundation, out of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, as part of the International Indian Ocean Expedition. The IIOE involved several dozen ships from about 15 countries around the world, and explored the Indian Ocean and adjacent seas from 1960 to 1965, resulting in extensive collections from a then poorly studied region (Behrman, 1981). Cruise 7 went from Durban (South Africa) to Madagascar and adjacent islands, then along the Mozambique coast, returning to Durban (Anonymous, 1965). Although the R/V *Anton Bruun* was named after the Danish marine biologist Anton Bruun (1901–1961), it was in fact an American ship, formerly the Presidential Yacht USS *Williamsburg*, used by President Harry Truman (Wolff, 2010:85–86). Afterwards, Boss presented a talk, "Benthic life of the Mozambique Channel and Natal Deep between 1000 and 3000 fathoms" at the June 1965 meeting of the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography. Boss had fond memories of this expedition, except for the Norwegian ship captain, who (as Boss later recounted) turned out to be both ineffectual and a martinet, resulting in a near mutiny onboard the ship.

While at the Smithsonian, Boss had his first exposure to modern technology. IBM, the computer company, had just invented a new dictaphone, a large electronic machine housed inside a barrel, mounted on wheels. The idea was that the user could dictate for several hours or even a full day into a speaking tube at the end of a hose, and a primitive recorder inside the barrel would record whatever was said on a special type of erasable magnetic tape. Boss was the "guinea pig" and volunteered to spend a week dictating his observations of specimens in the USNM collections. At the end of the week, the IBM engineers returned to the museum to transfer the recording. Alas, the IBM engineers instead managed to delete the entire week's worth of his recordings! At the same time, Boss often attended the weekly gatherings of the POETS Society—founded by the ichthyologists Daniel Cohen, Ernest Lachner, and Bruce Collette. These meetings offered the "members" of POETS an opportunity to meet colleagues from around the museum and unwind at the end of the week;

Figure 1. Kenneth Boss, William Clench, and Ruth Turner on the steps of the MCZ (May 1966). Photographer unknown; photograph from MCZ Mollusk archives.

POETS continues to meet every Friday after hours, but now at the Smithsonian.

RETURN TO HARVARD

In 1966, Clench reached the then-mandatory retirement age of 70, after spending 40 years at the MCZ. Ernst Mayr, the MCZ Director, launched a search for Clench's replacement. Mayr contacted a number of malacologists at other institutions, both in this country and overseas. One response, from Bengt Hubendick, the Swedish malacologist, was to the effect that Mayr did not have to look far, as the best young malacological systematist available was Boss (Johnson, 2006:143–144). At that time, the Smithsonian had also offered Boss a position as a Curator of Mollusks, a position that subsequently went to Clyde Roper, and Boss had also been recruited for a faculty position in the Biology department at the Universidad de El Salvador, the national university of that Central American country.

From 1966 until his retirement in 2004, nearly four decades later, Boss guided the Mollusk Department through a period of academic transition at the MCZ. Mayr and his successor, A. W. (Fuzz) Compton, did much to elevate the status of the curators at the MCZ by ensuring that nearly all of them also had tenured or tenure-track teaching appointments in the Biology Department—previously only a few curators also had such faculty positions (Mayr, 1969:18). As Winsor (1991:272) remarked in her history of the MCZ, "Many individuals concerned with the status of systematics have identified its role in the degree-granting system as the key to improvement. Mayr negotiated hard to gain for MCZ curators the status of membership in the Harvard faculty ...." Indeed, by the early 1970s, policy was changed such that all new curatorial hires would also be professors in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

Boss was promoted to full Professor and Curator in May 1969. Among the numerous letters solicited by Professor Mayr for the promotion review was one from Michael Ghiselin, then at the Bodega Marine Laboratory of the University of California, who wrote that:

> One of the reasons for Harvard's prosperity is the opportunities it affords for contacts with scholars not only of specialist erudition, but of broad general knowledge as well. Dr. Boss has substantially raised the quality of thought going on in his [Mollusk] department. A fine conversationist and a most congenial person, he provides the sort of company that is always pleasing to scholars. (M. T. Ghiselin letter to E. Mayr, 31 December 1968).

Boss enjoyed his initial years back at the MCZ, surrounded by congenial zoologists and botanists who were enthusiastic about natural history. At the time, everyone gathered for the Wednesday lunches, followed by the Natural History Seminar at which all matters large and small relating to natural history were enthusiastically discussed (Gould *in* Burns, 1975). His favorite faculty colleagues at that time, in addition to Mayr, included Giles W. Mead (who later

became Director of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History), Raymond A. Paynter, Jr. (ornithology), and Bernhard Kummel (invertebrate paleontology). Boss also became active in the Shop Club, then an exclusive group of Harvard faculty members who met once a month at the Faculty Club for a dinner talk and wide-ranging conversation.

As Curator of Malacology, Boss took over the editorship of *Johnsonia* and *Occasional Papers on Mollusks*, two journals that Clench had founded in the 1940s. *Johnsonia*, which published monographs on the marine mollusks of the Western Atlantic, ended in 1974, partly because the publication of the second edition of Abbott's *American Seashells* in 1974 reduced the demand by marine biologists and collectors for monographic treatments. *Occasional Papers on Mollusks* remained active through 2002 and was a useful resource for systematic catalogues and historical works, as well as shorter works on the biology and biogeography of mollusks. Boss also served on the editorial boards of *Malacologia* and *The Nautilus* and served on the board of the Institute of Malacology (the publisher of *Malacologia*) for several decades.

TEACHING AT HARVARD

As a Professor of Biology, Boss was able to serve as the chair of graduate thesis committees (unlike Clench, who never held a tenured faculty position—the entomologist Frank Carpenter was the nominal chair of the thesis committee for Boss in 1963). Graduate students under his supervision included José Stuardo (Limidae), Michael A. Rex (deep sea mollusks), Robert Bullock (Polyplacophora), Ron J. Etter (ecology of *Nucella*), Gary Rosenberg (Truncatellidae), and Alan Kabat (Naticidae). Boss also served as a thesis committee member or an informal advisor for other graduate students in the MCZ, including K. Elaine Hoagland (Calyptraeidae) and Charles Bradford Calloway (brooding in bivalves). Michael Ghiselin and Luitfried von Salvini-Plawen were both postdoctoral researchers at the MCZ (with Ghiselin continuing for two more years at Woods Hole); although nominally assigned to Professor Mayr, they spent much of their time in the Mollusk Department, partaking of its collections and library and interacting with Boss.

Boss also taught three courses in the Biology Department. Biology 133, the Biology of Mollusks, was co-taught every other year with Turner. Numerous budding malacologists, invertebrate paleontologists, and marine biologists learned so much about malacology from Boss and Turner, both of whom had wide-ranging knowledge across the entire phylum and were familiar with the research and literature in this field. Biology 10, the traditional Invertebrate Zoology course, was taught each fall, and Boss routinely earned among the highest student ratings in the entire department, perhaps because his low-key, relaxed approach to teaching was a welcome contrast to the other introductory courses, dominated by premedical students. His third course was a Freshman Seminar that used Charles Darwin's *Voyage of the Beagle* and Alfred Russel Wallace's *Malay Archipelago* as a starting point to discuss a wide range of issues in biogeography, paleontology, and marine biology. He also taught marine biology and other courses at Harvard's Extension School, thereby influencing numerous other students.

RESEARCH AT HARVARD

Boss's malacological research diversified at the MCZ. In addition to the Tellinidae, as noted earlier, Boss pursued other bivalve families, including the Vesicomyidae, a then

poorly known family of deep-sea clams, for which nothing was known of their biology. He initially published five papers on the systematics of the Vesicomyidae (1967f, 1968h, 1970c, 1970e, 1970g). A decade later, marine biologists at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution finally discovered living specimens of this family, associated with hydrothermal vents in the Eastern Pacific; that led to what became his most widely cited paper (1980c), the description with Turner of *Calyptogena magnifica*, the giant white clam from the Galapagos Rift. Turner contributed the anatomical descriptions, Boss contributed the species catalog (including the rather extensive fossil record), and both synthesized their wide-ranging knowledge of bivalves into a masterly description of this new species, now known to rely on chemoautotrophic bacteria for nutrition. Coincidentally, another research interest was the remarkable diversity of symbiotic bivalves (Galeommatoidea)—clams that live in close association (usually as commensals) with other marine organisms—which led to several papers on symbiotic bivalves (1965b, 1965f, 1966e, 1967h) and even one paper on a symbiotic polychaete worm that lives inside the shells of a marine clam (1966a).

Boss also collaborated with two research associates on their research on the Gastropoda. With Karl Jacobson (1906–1980), he co-authored several papers on the terrestrial Helicinidae of Cuba and adjacent regions (1973e, 1973g, 1974f, 1974h, 1975c, 1975d). Arthur Merrill (1916–2009), having completed his thesis on the Architectonicidae in 1970, but not having published it, realized that Boss was the right person to revise and update the research. This led to a series of papers on that interesting family, several co-authored with Rüdiger Bieler, now at the Field Museum (1984b, 1984d, 1984e, 1985d, 1987b, 1987c).

Boss had a good reading knowledge of French, German, and Spanish (the latter enhanced by his summer travels in Mexico and Central America in the 1960s) and later picked up enough Russian to skim through malacological papers from the Soviet Union. He realized that while the malacologists in the Soviet Union were publishing useful papers on the systematics, ecology, and physiology of mollusks, that research was largely overlooked outside the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe because of the limited circulation of Soviet journals (they were poorly indexed, if at all, in the *Zoological Record*) and the inability of Soviet zoologists to travel to Western Europe, let alone the United States. Hence, starting in 1969, Boss prepared translations of the titles and abstracts of Russian-language malacological papers, initially on his own, later co-authored with Jacobson, and after Jacobson's death, with Jerry Harasewych (1969h, 1970h, 1972c, 1973d, 1974a, 1975a, 1976a, 1977a, 1978a, 1979, 1980b, 1985a, 1986, 1987a, 1988b) (both Jacobson and Harasewych were fluent in Russian).

In addition to giving Boss a unique knowledge of the burgeoning Russian literature, this project also gave him an appreciation for the unfortunate predilection of Russian malacologists—most notoriously Yaroslav Starobogatov (1932–2004)—for creating innumerable new taxa, even in the most well-known families. In discussing Starobogatov's 1970 monograph on freshwater mollusks, Boss remarked that Starobogatov "unnecessarily complicates nature by burying everything in an unrealistic plethora of names" since "no recognition of a modern species concept is apparent; the shells are mere stamps, named and illustrated by simple outline drawings" (1973d:362). Furthermore, the "morass of names is enough to keep the serious worker concerned with biological and evolutionary phenomena away from these largely minute fresh-water prosobranchs, which is unfortunate since they are intrinsically interesting" (1973d:362).

His discussion of Starobogatov and other Russian malacologists of those times was grounded in one of his more interesting, yet unnecessarily criticized papers—an attempt to determine how many valid species of Recent mollusks had already been described (1971f). This paper, after a herculean review of how many species had been described in various families, and a careful determination of the ratio of the number of described species to the number of currently recognized species in each family or superfamily, concluded that there were approximately 46,800 valid species of living mollusks.

Some malacologists evidently viewed this number as demeaning to the field of malacology, or perhaps as an implicit criticism of their own descriptions of new species, for they criticized Boss for somehow concluding that there were no more than 50,000 species of Recent mollusks (Solem, 1978:53–56). However, Boss did not conclude that there were no new species left to be described. Instead, his analysis was a determination of the approximate number of species that had *already* been described and remained valid. In subsequent decades, the number of validly recognized species has slowly crept upward, accompanied by the description of new species based on few or no biologically significant characters, which may prove to be invalid in the future. Thus, although the number of valid species has increased, the synonymy ratio for various molluscan groups has probably remained consistent with his 1971 calculations. Rosenberg (2014), based on similarly detailed calculations, recently estimated the number of valid Recent species at 70,000 to 76,000, significantly closer to the estimate of Boss than to the inflated estimates of other authors, which ranged up to 200,000.

His delving into the Russian literature made Boss realize that the prior research on the enigmatic gastropods of Lake Baikal (Siberia) merited broader notice, which led him to compare Lake Baikal with other ancient lakes, including Lake Biwa (Japan), Lake Inle (Burma), the Ohrid Sea (Macedonia, then part of Yugoslavia), Lake Tanganyika (Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, and Zambia), and Lake Titicaca (Peru/Bolivia), in a lengthy comparative analysis of how prosobranchs and pulmonates had speciated in those interesting locales (1978c). That paper was also invaluable in bringing together the overlooked and widely scattered literature on these ancient lakes and served as a stimulus to subsequent researchers who brought modern techniques to the study of these fascinating faunas.

Boss also became interested in the history of malacology, and published a range of quite useful reference works on that subject. He authored short papers on several obscure or overlooked malacologists, including Arcangelo Scacchi (1968f); Dioscorides of Anazarba (1969l); Edward Chitty (1972b); Benedikt Dybowski, Wladyslaw Dybowski, and Jan Grochmalicki (1973c); Felipe Poey (1975e); and the father/son Searles V. Wood Sr. and Jr. (1989d). He co-authored lengthy catalogues and bibliographies for several major names in the field, including William Healey Dall (1968j), Charles Baker Adams (1972f, 1973i), Johannes Thiele (1989f, 1991), and Karl Eduard von Martens (1997b), and those works remain invaluable reference works for systematists and curatorial staff. He also authored gracious appreciations for several colleagues, including Marion Britz (1974d), Henry D. Russell (1987d), Ruth Turner (1989b), H. Barraclough (Barry) Fell (1996a), and Richard I. Johnson (1998). He co-authored a catalogue of malacological type catalogs, which brought together that scattered literature (1992d, 1997a). Finally, Boss took the time to unscramble all the cryptic abbreviations used in 1758 and 1767 by Linnaeus for the molluscan sources in the

Systema Naturae by determining which pre-Linnaean book or article corresponded to each abbreviation, resulting in an invaluable compendium of the pre-Linnaean literature on mollusks (1988a, 1999).

Probably the most widely read paper was his article on the giant squid, co-authored with Clyde Roper of the Smithsonian, published in *Scientific American* (1982b), and translated into six languages (Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish). This article grew out of the discovery of a beached specimen of *Architeuthis* in Massachusetts (1980a), which led to Roper and Boss synthesizing what was known about the biology and ecology of this enigmatic taxon. Previously, the giant squid was perhaps best known from the incorrect descriptions in the adventure books of Victor Hugo, Jules Verne, and others, whose imaginations outstripped their scientific knowledge (Muntz, 1995).

One of the most important of his works was his masterly synthesis of the living members of the entire Phylum Mollusca (1982a) for the *Synopsis and Classification of Living Organisms*, a two-volume treatise that provided family-level diagnoses for Recent animals, plants, and microorganisms. The Mollusca section ran to some 225 double-column pages and was the longest single-authored section in this two-volume book. Boss was assuredly the only malacologist who would have been able to complete this herculean task, given his wide-ranging knowledge of mollusks and, equally important, his ability to judge the conclusions reached by other authors. Naturally, he avoided the innumerable higher taxa that Starobogatov had erected, which otherwise would have doubled the length of this publication! This work provided detailed diagnoses for the various taxonomic units in the Mollusca—8 classes, 44 orders, and 528 families—and discussed the higher level classification of the entire phylum. This represented the first attempt to synthesize this knowledge since Thiele's *Handbuch der systematischen Weichtierkunde*, published from 1929 to 1935. It is safe to say that no one person today would have the knowledge or stamina to attempt a comparable effort. Indeed, when the *Fauna of Australia* published its two volumes on the mollusks of that country in 1998, it took 70 authors to cover only 423 families (Beesley *et al.*, 1998:v).

It should be noted that his treatment of the Mollusca in the *Synopsis* led to the description of a new superorder in the Bivalvia (Eupteriomorphia) and a family name in the Scaphopoda (Pulsellidae), as set forth in the list of new taxa (herein). Boss also used three genus names of Scaphopoda that were first described by Victor Scarabino in his doctoral thesis (Scarabino, 1979)—a publication that had been distributed to a number of malacologists and one that others had assured Boss was a valid publication under the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*. However, Richard Melville, the long-time Secretary of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, decided in 1984 that this publication, despite being widely distributed, was not valid under the Code, based on the forthcoming 1985 edition of the Code. Melville wrote a lengthy letter, in French (since Scarabino had done his thesis in Marseille), explaining why the thesis was not a nomenclaturally available work under the Code, and sent a copy of that letter to Boss. The response from Boss, who disagreed with Melville's reliance on an as-yet unpublished rule, was that "I have recently received a French letter from an Englishman," leading to Melville's prompt rejoinder, "As you only got a copy of my letter to Dr Arnaud, would you consider that a *secondhand* French letter?"

His sense of humor was well-known in the field, although sometimes it went over the

heads of colleagues. Several papers presented at meetings of the American Malacological Union (AMU) indicate how he brought some life to these staid events. In 1972, he discussed the Jamaican research of Edward Chitty, who overdescribed the land snail fauna of that island; Boss titled his paper "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" (1972b), after a popular Hollywood movie of that name. In 1973, he discussed the supposed nudibranch *Ancylodoris* described from Lake Baikal in Siberia, which led to a wide-ranging discussion of the early Siberian malacologists Benedikt Dybowski (1833–1930), Wladyslaw Dybowski (1838–1910), and Jan Gabriel Grochmalicki (1883–1936). His conclusion—that there were no nudibranchs in Lake Baikal—was almost irrelevant to his discussion of these savants, and his paper was appropriately titled, "*Ancylodoris*, its well deserved oblivion" (1973c). In 1974 and 1975, at the annual meetings of the AMU and the American Society of Zoologists, Boss discussed dormancy or hibernation in mollusks. He named this phenomenon "molluscan Oblomovism," after Ilya Oblomov, the title character in Ivan Goncharov's 1859 novel, *Oblomov*, "the nineteenth century Russian nobleman whose arrant laziness fathered the term Oblomovism to describe a sort of drowsy, retired, existence" (1974c:460). Boss was known for gently informing professional colleagues (including Rosewater, Calloway, and Bieler) that their current research had evidently been scooped by a paper just published in a quite obscure journal; after that colleague frantically tried to track down this nonexistent article, Boss then confessed to the hoax. Some years later, Bieler returned the favor by citing the nonexistent article, "Boss, K.J. & L. Urbanski. (in press). Oblomovism revisited. Journal of Molluscan Behaviour," in the bibliography to their Thiele paper (1991:62).

Figure 2. Ernst Mayr, Richard Johnson, and Kenneth Boss at the MCZ's Ernst Mayr Library upon the dedication of the portrait of Mayr, which Boss and Johnson commissioned (October 11, 1995). Photograph by Mary Lee.

OTHER INTERESTS

In his later years, Boss enjoyed the monthly meetings of the Club of Odd Volumes (COV), a club in Boston whose membership is limited to 87 Resident Members (and 51 Non-Resident Members), i.e., individuals with an interest in book collecting, printing, and related topics. The COV was founded in 1887, and its purpose "is to promote literary and artistic tastes, to establish and maintain a place for social meetings and a reference library, to provide occasional exhibits of a special and instructive character, and to publish rare prints and books relating to historical and literary matters." Two former MCZ Directors, Samuel Henshaw and Thomas Barbour, both herpetologists, were also long-time members of the COV.

At the November 2002 meeting of the COV, Boss gave a talk on "Bibliotheca Zoologica Linnaeana"—according to the invitation, "he will discuss the great Swedish naturalist Carl von Linné, or Carolus Linnaeus, and his binomial system of nomenclature which he utilized in the *Systema Naturae*, with especial reference to the

bibliographic sources he cited." This talk was, of course, an outgrowth of his analysis of the sources used by Linnaeus (1988a, 1999), which gave Boss the opportunity to do an enjoyable run through those interesting publications, such as Gualtieri, Rondelet, Rumphius, Seba, and others. The cover to the invitation inevitably featured the famous painting of Linnaeus in his Lappland dress.

Perhaps the favorite part of his life was his annual summer vacation on Louds Island, Maine. Sometime in the 1960s, Boss first visited this island, which has about 30 fishermen's cabins, but with no running water or electricity, and became enamored of its life and residents, for he soon acquired his own cabin and greatly enjoyed the island summers over the next four decades. In the "About the Authors" section of the *Scientific American* paper on the giant squid (1982b:15), Boss remarked that: "I am suffering from what I believe Lawrence Durrell called islomania, an uncommon passion for the escape and isolation offered by islands; to that end I have a book-filled old fisherman's house on an island in the Gulf of Maine. It was there that Clyde [Roper] and I became enthusiastic about the prospect of writing an article on *Architeuthis*." Indeed, after he died on May 18, 2014, his island neighbors expressed their sadness at losing their longtime friend and neighbor. Elizabeth Jackson (Hartford, Connecticut), who also spent her summers on Louds Island for over 40 years, remarked: "He was such a wonderful, warm, brilliant, eccentric friend who will be missed by many." Jill Stevenson (Middlebury, Connecticut), stated:

> The island was a giant marine biology lab for Ken. He was fascinated and appreciative of every aspect of the natural life around him and would take any amount of time to explain aspects of the tides or wildlife to the rest of us. Everyone felt so fortunate to be part of his classroom. He often reflected that he had traveled to so many wonderful places but once he discovered Louds Island he couldn't wait to arrive each summer and he had no desire to go anywhere else .... Ken was a true scholar whose books and friends were things he treasured. They enriched his life and the insatiable curiosity he had of the world around him.

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CATALOGUE OF NEW TAXA

Acronyms

ANSP—Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

AHF—Allan Hancock Foundation, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California (transferred to the LACM in 1988).

LACM—Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, Los Angeles, California.

LACM-AHF-Poly—Polychaete Collections, Allan Hancock Foundation, Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, Los Angeles, California.

MCZ—Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

MNHN—Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris.

NHMUK—Natural History Museum of the United Kingdom, London.

RMNH—Nationaal Natuurhistorisches Museum Naturalis, Leiden.

SIO—Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California.

USNM—National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Mollusca: Bivalvia

alerta, Tellina (*Merisca*). Boss, 1964e:309–311, pl. 55, figs. 1, 2; Boss, 1966f:269–270, pl. 139, fig. 3, pl. 141, figs. 3, 4. Holotype, NHMUK 1879.10.15.171.2. Type locality 32°45′S, 50°39′W, about 15 miles SE of Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil, 48 fathoms. Tellinidae.

caribbea, Vesicomya (*Callogonia*). Boss, 1967f:1–6, figs. 1–6. Holotype, USNM 674573. Type locality, M/V *Oregon* Station 5692, 12°31′N, 70°58′W, 205 fathoms, Caribbean Sea, off Cabo la Vela, Peninsula de Guajira, Colombia. Vesicomyidae.

cordata, Vesicomya. Boss, 1968h:733–737, figs. 1–8. Holotype, MCZ 256974; paratype MCZ 256975. Type locality R/V *Pillsbury* station 394, 9°28.6′N, 76°26.3′W, Golfo del Darién, 66 miles NNE of Punta Caribana, Colombia (Caribbean Sea), in 421–641 m. Vesicomyidae.

diantha, Tellina (*Angulus*). Boss, 1964e:323–324, pl. 55, fig. 6; Boss, 1968e:320–321, pl. 154, fig. 3, pl. 159, fig. 4. Holotype, MCZ 239110. Type locality, Barbados. Tellinidae.

exerythra, Tellina (*Angulus*)—Boss, 1964e: 315, 318–319, pl. 55, fig. 7; Boss, 1968e:316–318, pl. 156, fig. 4, pl. 157, fig. 5. Holotype, MCZ 239220. Type locality, Boca del Infierno, Bahía de Samaná, Santo Domingo, Hispaniola. Tellinidae.

Eupteriomorphia—Boss, 1982a:1113. Superorder, for Pterioida, Limoida, and Ostreoida. Now regarded as a polyphyletic taxon; not in current use (Bieler *et al.*, 2010:118–121).

euvitrea, Tellina (*Angulus*)—Boss, 1964e: 321–323, pl. 55, fig. 5; Boss, 1968e:319–320, pl. 156, fig. 3, pl. 159, fig. 2. Holotype, USNM 461952. Type locality, *Barrera* Station 200, Santa Lucia, 15 miles SW of La Esperanza, Pinar del Río, Cuba, 2–4 fathoms. Tellinidae.

fosteri, Lucina—Hartman and Boss, 1966a: 182–185, figs. 6–9. Holotype, USNM 654276; paratypes USNM; LACM-AHF-Poly 160 (n = 1), 161 (n = 10+) (formerly AHF). Type locality, R/V *Anton Bruun*, Station 364 C, Cruise 7, International Indian Ocean Expedition, 23°20′S, 43°36.3′E, northwest of Tuléar, Madagascar, in 39–45 fathoms. Lucinidae.

inflata, Pandora (*Pandorella*)—Boss and Merrill, 1965a:205–208, pls. 124, 125. Replacement name for *Kennerlia brevis* Verrill and Bush, 1898:821 *non* G. B. Sowerby I, 1829 [as *Pandora*]. Pandoridae.

magnifica, Calyptogena (*Ectenagena*)—Boss and Turner, 1980c:164–183, figs. 1–9, 10f, g, 11, 12d–f, 13. Holotype, MCZ 288500; numerous paratypes in MCZ, USNM, ANSP, LACM, NHMUK, MNHN, and SIO. Type locality, DSRV *Alvin* Dive 717, Galapagos Rift, 0°47.9′N, 86°08.5′W, in 2,495 m.

modioliforma, Ectenagena—Boss, 1968h: 742–746, figs. 10, 21–24, 26, 27. Holotype,

MCZ 256973. Type locality, R/V *Pillsbury* station 394, 9°28.6′N, 76°26.3′W, Golfo del Darién, 66 miles NNE of Punta Caribana, Colombia (Caribbean Sea), in 421–641 m. Vesicomyidae.

Parabornia—Boss, 1965b:2–9. Type species *Parabornia squillina* Boss, 1965; original designation. Originally described in the Erycinidae [now Lasaeidae]; transferred to Galeommatidae by Simone (2001).

paramera, Tellina (*Angulus*)—Boss, 1964e: 311, 314–315, pl. 55, figs. 3, 8; Boss, 1968e:306–307, pl. 152, figs. 1, 2, pl. 153, fig. 3. Holotype, MCZ 242904. Type locality, off Miami Beach, Florida, 8.5 fathoms. Tellinidae.

ponderosa, Calyptogena—Boss, 1968h:737–742, figs. 9, 11–15, 18. Holotype, USNM 674574. Type locality, M/V *Oregon I* station 1426, 29°07′N, 87°54′W, about 77 miles south of Mobile Bay, Gulf of Mexico, in 600 fathoms. Vesicomyidae.

probrina, Tellina (*Angulus*)—Boss, 1964e: 319–321, pl. 55, fig. 4; Boss, 1968e:318–319, pl. 155, fig. 1, pl. 159, fig. 3. Holotype, USNM 461905. Type locality, *Eolis* Station 151, off Fowey Light, Florida, in 55 fathoms. Tellinidae.

pseudocarnaria, Strigilla (*Strigilla*)—Boss, 1969a:352–355, pl. 166, figs. 1, 2. Holotype, MCZ 212736. Type locality, Bahía de Añasco, Puerto Rico. Tellinidae.

sandix, Tellina (*Scissula*)—Boss, 1968e:335–336, pl. 161, figs. 1, 2. Replacement name for *Tellina exilis* Lamarck 1819 (Jamaica), *non* Link, 1808. Tellinidae.

squillina, Parabornia—Boss, 1965b:2–6, figs. 1–3. Holotype, AMNH 112526; paratypes AMNH 112527 (n = 8); USNM 653701 (n = 2). Type locality, Cristobal, Canal Zone, Panama (Caribbean Sea) [attached to *Lysiosquilla scabricauda* (Stomatopoda)]. Originally described in the Erycinidae [now Lasaeidae]; transferred to Galeommatidae by Simone (2001).

surinamensis, Strigilla (*Simplistrigilla*)—Boss, 1972h:26–28, pl. 1, figs. 1, 2, 4a, b. Holotype, RMNH.MOL.54943 (right valve); paratypes RMNH.MOL.54944 (left valve); RMNH.MOL.119435 (2 specimens, Station 85); MCZ 278401 (right valve). Type locality, *Luymes* Station M 84, 6°19.6′N, 54°04.5′W, northwest of the Maroni River, Surinam, 22.2 m. Tellinidae.

Mollusca: Gastropoda

Alleghenya—Clench and Boss, 1967b:101. Replacement name for *Nitocris* H. and A. Adams, 1854 *non* Rafinesque, 1815; also for *Mudalia* aucct. *non* Haldeman, 1840. Type species *Bulimus carinatus* Bruguière, 1789; original designation. Pleuroceridae.

bullisi, Pseudotorinia—Bieler, Merrill and Boss, 1985d:139–140, fig. 1. Holotype, USNM 819925; paratypes USNM 500298 (n = 1), MCZ 262982 (n = 2). Type locality R/V *Oregon* station 518, about 90 miles southwest of Pensacola, Florida, 29°23.2′N, 88°03.0′W, 82 m. Architectonicidae.

Glyptalcadia—Boss and Jacobson, 1973g: 341. Subgenus of *Alcadia*. Type species *Alcadia* (*Alcadia*) *euglypta* Clench and Aguayo, 1950; original designation. Helicinidae.

jatibonica, Alcadia (*Penisoltia*) *bermudezi* new subspecies—Boss and Jacobson, 1973g: 334, pl. 5, figs. 4–6. Holotype, MCZ 128669; paratypes MCZ 128670, 128671, 276631. Type locality, Boquerón de Jatibonico, Las Villas, Cuba. Helicinidae.

pattersoni, Pomacea (*Effusa*)—Boss and Parodiz, 1977b:112, 116–118, figs. 7–9. Holotype, MCZ 272900 (steinkern); paratype, MCZ 272918 (steinkern). Type locality, near Yarina, 6°17′S, 75°17′W, upstream from Isla Navarro, close to Río Huallaga, San Martín, Peru (Tertiary). Ampullariidae.

Philippinae—Boss, 1982a:997 (for *Philippia*); Merrill and Boss, 1984d:335 (for *Acutitectonica* and *Philippia*); Boss and

Merrill, 1984e:363–364 (same). Boss (1982) summarized the information from Merrill's unpublished (1970) doctoral thesis, inadvertently using this name without formally describing it. Bouchet and Rocroi (2005: 130) stated that this name was not made available in 1982, since there was "no diagnosis, only joint diagnosis for [both] Architectonicinae and Philippinae," and concluded that this name was first made available in 1985 by Melone and Taviani (1985:165). In 1984, Boss and Merrill (1984e:363–364) provided an extended description of this subfamily, but without a formal diagnosis (the usage in Merrill and Boss, 1984d:335 cross-referenced the 1984e description). Architectonicidae.

prourceus, Pomacea (*Pomacea*)—Boss and Parodiz, 1977b:110–112, figs. 1–4. Holotype, MCZ 272899 (steinkern). Type locality, Chicoa, east of Chasuta, 6°35′S, 76°11′W, Río Huallaga, San Martín, Peru (early Tertiary, "possibly middle or late Eocene"). Ampullariidae.

sindermanni, Acutitectonica Merrill and Boss, 1984d:339–340, pls. 45, 46. Holotype, MCZ 294313. Type locality, about 105 miles north of Cabo Orange, Brazil, 6°05′N, 51°21′W, in 96 m. A junior synonym of *Adelphotectonica uruguayana* (Carcelles, 1953) (fide Bieler, 1993:109). Architectonicidae.

Mollusca: Scaphopoda

Annulipulsellum—Boss, 1982a: 1166 (*ex* Scarabino ms. 1979:37). *Nomen nudum*; made available by Scarabino (1986b:4); see also Steiner and Kabat (2001:439).

Emersoniella—Boss, 1982a:1166 (*ex* Scarabino ms. 1979:39–40), *non* Tendeiro, 1965 (Insecta). *Nomen nudum*; made available as *Wemersoniella* by Scarabino (1986a:3); see also Steiner and Kabat (2001:443).

Pulsellidae—Boss, 1982a:1166 (*ex* Scarabino ms. 1979:17, 35). For *Pulsellum* Stoliczka, 1868, and four other genera: *Striopulsellum*, *Annulipulsellum*, *Compressidens*, and *Emersoniella*; now restricted to *Pulsellum*, *Annulipulsellum*, and *Striopulsellum* (fide Steiner and Kabat, 2001:438).

Striopulsellum—Boss, 1982a:1166 (*ex* Scarabino ms. 1979:38). *Nomen nudum*; made available by Scarabino (1995:323); see also Steiner and Kabat (2001:450).

Polychaeta

Antonbruunia—Hartman and Boss, 1966a: 177–182, figs. 1–5. Type species *Antonbruunia viridis* Hartman and Boss, 1966; original designation. Hartman and Boss (1966a:181) stated that this genus "is closely allied to the Pilargidae" with some differences. Subsequently, Fauchald (1977:91) established the monotypic family Antonbruunidae for this genus.

viridis, Antonbruunia—Hartman and Boss, 1966a:117–182, figs. 1–5. Holotype, LACM-AHF Poly 158 (formerly AHF); paratypes LACM-AHF Poly 159, 161, and 162; USNM 56718 (n = 4). Type locality, R/V *Anton Bruun*, Station 364 C, Cruise 7, International Indian Ocean Expedition, 23°20′S, 43°36.3′E, northwest of Tuléar, Madagascar, in 39–45 fathoms; symbiotic in mantle cavity of *Lucina fosteri*.

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